

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 211352

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sogabe et al.

Application No. 09/940,941

Filed: August 28, 2001

For: CREATINE AMIDINOHYDROLASE,
PRODUCTION THEREOF AND USE
THEREOF

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: E. Slobodyansky

9/a
M.G.J
8/20/02

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2002, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

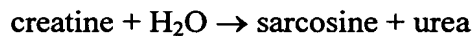
AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 24, 25, 33, 35, 36, and 37 as follows:

24. (Amended) A creatine amidinohydrolase (i) encoded by a nucleic acid sequence obtained by mutation of (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and (ii) having the following physicochemical properties:

Action: catalyzing the following reaction:



Heat stability: not more than about 50 °C (pH 7.5, 30 min)

Km values for creatine in a coupling assay using a sarcosine oxidase and a peroxidase: 3.5-10.0 mM.